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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/524,326	03/13/2000	Martin Morris	WIDC-005/00US	7223

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, HANH N	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2662	

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/524,326	MORRIS, MARTIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hanh Nguyen	2662	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 July 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 - 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Haartsen (USP 6,590,928 B1).

Referring to Claim 1, Haartsen discloses a method for communicating within a system including a master unit and one or more slave units (col.12, lns. 29-31), said method comprising the steps of assigning a member address to a first slave unit (a slot assigned to a slave in a master address, col.12, lines 25-30 & lines 35-40); said member address corresponding to a selected time slot of a plurality of time slots detined by a system clock (col.12, lns. 15-27), said time slots repeating in cycles; assigning to said first slave unit a first extended address (a 3-bit member address in a header of packet, see col.12, lines 40-45) associated with an occurrence of said selected time slot (a slot assigned in a master address) within at least a selected one of said cycles (system clock); and transmitting information from said first slave unit to said master unit during said occurrence of said selected time slot (see col. 12, lns. 17-55).

Referring to Claim 2, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 1 further including

the step of assigning to a second slave unit said member address and a second extended address associated with a different occurrence of said selected time slot within one or more of said cycles, said second slave unit being disposed to transmit information during said different occul-rence of said selected time slot (up to 8 slave units can be serviced at a time, col. 12, lns. 27-49).

Referring to Claim 3, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 2 further including the step of determining whether less than a maximum permitted number of said slave units have been assigned to said member address, said maximum permitted number of slave units being determined by performing a division operation in which a bandwidth associated with said member address is divided by a bandwidth allocated to said first slave unit, said maximum permitted number of slave units being no greater than a quotient of said division operation (the bandwidth is divided by 8, so up to 8 slaves can be accommodated by the master unit, (col. 12, lns. 28-49).

Referring to Claim 4, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 1 further including the step of polling said first slave unit during one of said plurality of time slots immediately preceding said occurrence of said selected time slot (col. 12, lns. 28-49).

Referring to Claim 5, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 4 further including the step of polling a second slave unit during one of said plurality of time slots immediately preceding said different occuln-ence of said selected time slot (col.12, lns. 28-49).

Referring to Claim 6, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 1 further including the step of synchronizing said master unit, said first slave unit and said second slave unit to said system clock, a first member (extended) address and a second member (extended) address

con'esponding to tirst and second states of said system clock (col.12, lns16-40, the member addresses identify when the slave unit is able to respond).

Referring to Claim 7, Haartsen discloses the method of claim l wherein said step of assigning a member address includes the step of determining whether a bandwidth associated with extended addresses corresponding to said member address is no less than a desired bandwidth of said first slave unit (the system can handle up to 8 users, if more than 8 devices are attempting to connect to the master device, the master has insufficient bandwidth to handle the additional unit, col. 12, lns. 45-50).

Referring to Claim 8, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 1 further including the step of assigning a second member address to a second slave unit, said second member address corresponding to a different selected time slot of saidplurality of time slots, said second slave being disposed to transmit information during each occurrence of said different selected time slot (col. 12, lns. l 5-55).

Referring to Claim 9, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 8 further including the step of assigning, to a third slave unit, said first member address and a second extended address associated with a different occurrence of said selected time slot within one or more of said cycles, said third slave unit being disposed to transmit information during said different occurrence of said selected time slot (col. 12, lns. 1 5-55).

Referring to Claim 10, Haartsen discloses the method of claim 8 further including the step of polling said first slave unit during one of said plurality of time slots

immediately preceding said occurrence of said selected time slot, and polling said second slave unit during the one of said plurality of time slots immediately preceding said different selected time slot (col. 12, lns. 28-49).

Referring to Claim 11, Haartsen discloses a conmmnication system in which a sequence of time slots repeats in cycles, said communication system comprising: a first slave unit; and a master unit, said master unit including means for assigning a member address to said first slave unit (col.12, lns 15-31), said member address corresponding to a selected one of said sequence of time slots; means for assigning to said first slave unit a first member (extended) address associated with an occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots within one or more of said cycles (col. 12, lns. 28-49), said first slave unit being disposed to transmit information during said occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots (col. 12, Ins. 35-39).

Referring to Claim 12, Haartsen discloses the communication system of claim 1 1 further including a second slave unit; said master unit including means for assigning to said second slave unit said member address and a second extended address associated with a different occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots within one or more of said cycles, said second slave unit being disposed to transmit information during said different occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots (col.12, ln 28-55).

Referring to Claim 13, Haartsen discloses the communication system of claim 1 1 further including a second slave unit, said master unit including means for assigning a second member address to said second slave unit, said second member address corresponding to a different selected time slot of said sequence of time slots, said second slave unit being disposed

to transmit information during each occurrence of said different selected time slot (col. 12, lns. 28-49).

Referring to Claim 14, Haartsen discloses a communication system in which a master unit communicates with one or more slave units during a sequence of time slots repeating in cycles (col.12, lns 15-31), said master unit comprising: means for polling a first slave unit (col. 1 2, lns. 34-39); means for asigning a master (member) address to said first slave unit, said member address corresponding to a selected one of said sequence of time slots (col. 12, lns. 15-27); and means for assigning to said first slave unit a first extended address associated with an occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots within one or more of said cycles, said first slave unit being disposed to transmit information during said occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots (col.12, ln 15-55).

Referring to Claim 1 5, Haartsen discloses the master unit of claim 14 further including means for assigning to a second slave unit said member address and a second extended address usociated with a different occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots within one or more of said cycles wherein said second slave unit is disposed to transmit information during each occurrence of said selected one of said sequence of time slots (col. 12, lns. 28-50).

Referring to Claim 16, Haartsen discloses the master unit of claim 14 further including means for assigning a second member address to a second slave unit, said second member address corresponding to a different selected time slot of said sequence of time slots wherein said second slave unit is disposed to transmit information during each occurrence of said different selected time slot (col.12, lns 15-55).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 7/12/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues Haartsen does not disclose a member address corresponds to a select time slot ; and a first extended address associates with said selected time slot. According to the amended specification filed on 10/24/03, an extended adress assigned to a slave is to distinguish it from other slaves within the piconet. Therefore, the extended address of a slave in Haartsen is identified by a 3-bit address in a headet of packet to distinguish it from another slave, (see col.12, lines 40-45).

According to Haartsen, the slaves units in the piconet establish their connections via a selected master unit which schedules their transmissions by a polling scheme. The master unit polls a slave in its assigned slot (receive RX slot, col.12, lines 35-40) and the slave responds in its assigned TX slot. Every slave unit is identified by a 3-bit member address in the packet header(extended address of slave) see col.12, lines 40-45). Therefore, there is an association between the assigned slot (RX slot) and the extended address (3-bit member address in packet header) assigned to the slave.

Therefore, examiner believes that Haartsen overcomes the claimed limitations and maintains the rejections anticipated by Haartsen.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

.Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272 3092. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8AM to 5PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on 571 272 3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).